EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Stephen Kopchik,Reg.No. 61215 on January 26, 2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended)   An electronic mail processing apparatus comprising:

a data receiving section operable to receive mail data including video data or audio data;

a cited data detecting section operable to detect a cited part of the received video data or audio data that is cited from mail data created by a creator different from a creator of the received mail, as cited data, from the mail data received by the data receiving section; and

a reproduction control section operable to control a reproducing method of the received mail data based on the detection result by the cited data detecting section,

wherein the reproduction control section controls the reproduction method so that a reproduction method for the cited data which is detected by the cited data detecting section is different from a reproduction method for data other than the cited data which is detected by the cited data detecting section in the received mail data, [[and]]

~~wherein the cited data includes information relating to the creator of the mail data in a specified region, and the cited data detecting section detects the cited part by using the information relating to the creator.~~

wherein the video data or audio data included in the cited data is data compressed by a specified compressing method and has a frame including a header portion in which information relating to the creator of the mail data is recorded, and

wherein the cited data detecting section detects the cited part by using the information relating to the creator recorded in the header portion of the frame of the video data or audio data.

2. (Previously Presented)   The electronic mail processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the reproduction control section controls reproduction speed of the mail data so as to reproduce the data other than the cited data in the received mail data at a first speed, and reproduce the cited data at a second speed which is faster than the first speed.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented)   The electronic mail processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the cited data includes the information relating to the creator of the mail data in a form of a digital watermark embedded in the video data or audio data, and the cited data detecting section detects the cited data by using the information relating to the creator embedded in the form of the digital watermark.

6. (Currently Amended)   The electronic mail processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a data creating section operable to create the mail data for transmission including the video data or audio data,

wherein when creating the mail data, the data creating section stores the information relating to the creator of the mail data in the header portion~~a specified recording region~~ of the frame of the video data or audio data.

7. (Previously Presented)   The electronic mail processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a data creating section operable to create the mail data for transmission including the video data or audio data,

wherein when creating the mail data, the data creating section embeds the information relating to the creator of the mail data in a form of a digital watermark in the video data or audio data.

8. (Currently Amended)   An electronic mail processing method comprising:

receiving mail data including video data or audio data;

detecting a cited part of the video data or audio data that is cited from mail data created by a creator different from a creator of the received mail, as cited data, from the received mail data; and

making a reproduction method for the mail data such that different reproduction methods are used for a case in which data to be reproduced is the detected cited part and a case in which the data to be reproduced is data which is another part than the detected cited part,

~~wherein the cited data includes information relating to the creator of the mail data in a specified region, and the cited data is detected by using the information relating to the creator.~~

wherein the video data or audio data included in the cited data is data compressed by a specified compressing method and has a frame including header portion in which information relating to the creator of the mail data is recorded, and

wherein the cited data is detected by using the information relating to the creator that is recorded in the header portion of the frame of the video data or audio data.

9. (Original)   The electronic mail processing method according to claim 8, wherein the data other than the cited data in the received mail data is reproduced at a first speed, and the cited data is reproduced at a second speed which is faster than the first speed.

10. (Cancelled)

11.(Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The electronic mail processing method according to claim 8, wherein the cited data includes the information relating to the creator of the mail data in a form of a digital watermark embedded in the video data or audio data, and the cited data is detected by using the information relating to the creator embedded in the form of the digital watermark.

13. (Currently Amended)   The electronic mail processing method according to claim 8, further comprising:

creating mail data including video data or audio data,

storing the information relating to a creator of the created mail data in <u>the header portion of the frame of video data or audio data, and</u><s>a specified recording region in the mail data, and</s>

transmitting the created mail data having the information relating to the creator stored therein.

14. (Previously Presented) The electronic mail processing method according to claim 8, further comprising:

creating mail data including video data or audio data,

embedding the information relating to a creator of the created mail data in a form of a digital watermark in the video data or audio data, and

transmitting the created mail data embedded with the information relating to the creator.

15. (Currently Amended)   An electronic mail processing system comprising:

a first mail processing apparatus; and

a second mail processing apparatus that exchanges electronic mails with the first mail processing apparatus,

wherein the first mail processing apparatus comprises:

a data transmitting and receiving section operable to transmit and receive mail data including video data or audio data;

a cited data detecting section operable to detect a cited part of video data or audio data that is cited from mail data created by a creator different from a creator of the received mail, as cited data, from the received mail data;

a reproduction control section operable to control a reproducing method of the received mail data based on the detection result by the cited data detecting section so that a reproduction method for the cited data which is detected by the

cited data detecting section is different from a reproduction method for data other

than the cited data which is detected by the cited data detecting section in the

received mail data; and

a data creating section operable to create mail data for transmission by

adding information relating to a creator of the mail data to video data or audio

data included in the mail data,

~~wherein the cited data includes information relating to the creator of the mail data~~

~~in a specified region, and the cited data detecting section detects the cited part by using~~

~~the information relating to the creator, and~~

wherein the video data or audio data included in the cited data is data

compressed by a specified compressing method and has a frame including a header

portion in which information relating to the creator of the mail data is recorded,

wherein the cited data detecting section detects the cited part by using the

information relating to the creator that is recorded in the header portion of the frame of

the video data or audio data, and

wherein the second mail processing apparatus comprises:

a data transmitting and receiving section operable to transmit and receive

mail data; and

a data editing section operable to edit the mail data received in the data

transmitting and receiving section, and

wherein the second mail processing apparatus creates a reply mail including as

cited data a part or whole of video data and audio data included in the received mail

data, by the data editing section, and transmits a reply mail to a sender of the received

mail data through the data transmitting and receiving section.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-2,5-9,12-15 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The provision for -- an electronic mail processing system comprising:

a first mail processing apparatus; and

a second mail processing apparatus that exchanges electronic mails with the first

mail processing apparatus,

wherein the first mail processing apparatus comprises:

a data transmitting and receiving section operable to transmit and receive

mail data including video data or audio data;

a cited data detecting section operable to detect a cited part of video data

or audio data that is cited from mail data created by a creator different from a

creator of the received mail, as cited data, from the received mail data;

a reproduction control section operable to control a reproducing method of

the received mail data based on the detection result by the cited data detecting

section so that a reproduction method for the cited data which is detected by the

cited data detecting section is different from a reproduction method for data other

than the cited data which is detected by the cited data detecting section in the
received mail data; and

a data creating section operable to create mail data for transmission by
adding information relating to a creator of the mail data to video data or audio
data included in the mail data,

*wherein the video data or audio data included in the cited data is data
compressed by a specified compressing method and has a frame including a header
portion in which information relating to the creator of the mail data is recorded,*

*wherein the cited data detecting section detects the cited part by using the
information relating to the creator that is recorded in the header portion of the frame of
the video data or audio data*

-- wherein all the features previously described are combined in one singular
embodiment,   is not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

The Examiner finds particular novelty in the reproduction control section
capabilities as described in the Applicant Specification (Figure 3,page 8 Lx 30-45)
wherein the said reproduction control section is able control a reproducing method of
the received mail data based on *the information relating to the creator that is recorded
in the header portion of the frame of the video data or audio data*, such that the
rendering/reproduction/ playback options for cited data portions of the video or audio
data is different from the other portions of the received email.

Hubert Figure 10B disclosed creating, viewing and filtering video and audio
annotations. Hubert disclosed wherein each annotation record may contain "header"
information common to all annotations, such as the annotation author, and a date/time
stamp indicating when the annotation was made. As with the annotation content, this
header information and the annotation data may be searchable, allowing specific
annotations to be retrieved (e.g., by author, date of creation, etc.). However Hubert
does not disclose different rendering/reproduction/playback options for different portions
of the annotated data. Hubert does not disclose controlling a reproducing method of the
annotated data based on _the information relating to the creator that is recorded in the
header portion of the frame of the video data or audio data._

Imagawa Figure 3, Figure 5 disclosed a media editing method for videomails
including a frame selection part 20 that determines starting and ending frames.
However Imagawa does not disclose different rendering/reproduction/ playback options
for different portions of the videomail data. Imagawa does not disclose controlling a
reproducing method of the videomail data based on _the information relating to the
creator that is recorded in the header portion of the frame of the video data or audio
data._

Lane disclosed recording of headers which identify data as data intended for use
during trick play as opposed to normal play operation. Lane adds additional header
information to each packet which identifies the information pertinent to retrieval during
VTR trick play operation. Such header information may include an identifier as to what

particular trick play speed of operation, e.g., 9.times. fast forward, and thus what

particular fast scan track, a particular data packet is assigned. While Lane disclosed

different rendering/reproduction/ playback options for different portions of the video

data, Lane does not disclose controlling a reproducing method of the video data based

on _the information relating to the creator that is recorded in the header portion of the

frame of the video data or audio data._

Ozkan disclosed utilising the video message structure capabilities to permit

manual and/or automatic navigation or access through or between or amongst the video

messages by a creator or by a viewer using labels and timing information associated

with the structure and/or video data. However Ozkan does not disclose controlling a

reproducing method of the video data based on _the information relating to the creator

that is recorded in the header portion of the frame of the video data or audio data._

Jennings disclosed enabling email message creators to specify, inside of an

email message, how (e.g., when, how fast, and in what order) the other components of

a message are to be presented to message recipients, and that further enables multiple

such presentations to be specified for a single message. Each component 202-203 may

further comprise one or more records 206. A record is, for example, a scene (a plurality

of frames) of a video component, etc. A message may include one or more

"presentation" components, each defining a different presentation of the message. This

message configuration is shown in FIG. 2. Each "presentation" component 204-205 is

a script containing commands that defines the sequence and duration of presentation of

message-body components or components' records to the message recipient. While

Jennings disclosed different rendering/reproduction/ playback options for different portions of the video data in an email, Jennings does not disclose controlling a reproducing method of the video data based on _the information relating to the creator that is recorded in the header portion of the frame of the video data or audio data._

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GREG BENGZON whose telephone number is (571)272-3944. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Fri. 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on (571)272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Greg   Bengzon/
Examiner, Art Unit 2444